



Preparing for Healthcare Reform

Introducing
the Leadership Circle

2013 State of the County

King County Executive Dow Constantine

Making the most of healthcare reform in King County

Enrolling all eligible people in health insurance is the goal of Executive Constantine's new Leadership Circle



New Leadership Circle:

King County Executive Dow Constantine has created a **Leadership Circle** to champion enrollment of people who are newly eligible for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act. The group consists of prominent community leaders from local business, health and non-profit organizations, education, cities, media and other sectors, all of whom have made a commitment to reach out to their respective constituencies. The Leadership Circle will help spread the word about the new opportunities for health insurance, help Executive Constantine monitor implementation, and provide follow-up advice on reaching those who are eligible but still haven't enrolled. **Three co-leads** have been appointed to serve as **co-chairs** of the Leadership Circle, including **Tom Gibbon** of **Swedish Medical Center**, **Maud Daudon** of the **Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce**, and **Gordon McHenry, Jr.** of the non-profit **Solid Ground**.

The problem of the uninsured: If you're one of the 200,000 people in King County without health insurance, the only way to pay for medical care is out-of-pocket. How do you afford expensive preventive care for your family, and what do you do if you get sick or injured? Being without health insurance makes individuals and families vulnerable to serious illness and financial hardship. Treating illnesses in emergency rooms puts an economic strain on communities because ER care is much more expensive than providing preventive care or treating an illness before it becomes serious.

A key provision of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is to increase enrollment in health insurance: The ACA provides increased Medicaid eligibility for low income single adults and families, subsidies for families to self-purchase insurance, and expansion of employer-based insurance. Many people without insurance go without preventive care. With better access to health insurance, money will not be an obstacle to needed vaccinations, cancer screenings and mental health

services, and the ability to better able to manage diabetes, high blood pressure, and other chronic conditions. People will have less reason to wait until an illness becomes serious before seeking care.

In King County, 185,000 people are expected to newly qualify for Medicaid or subsidized health insurance. About 83,000 people earning less than 138% of the federal poverty level (currently \$31,809 for a family of four) will be eligible for Medicaid, including 7,000 homeless persons. Another 100,000 people will be able to buy subsidized insurance in the Washington state insurance "Exchange."

Enrollment will begin October 1, 2013.

Washington's insurance Exchange is an information clearinghouse and marketplace. Healthplanfinder (<http://wahbexchange.org>) will be the go-to place to learn about the Exchange's plans, providers, costs, and quality of care.

Outreach to the newly eligible will be critical:

Reaching out to newly eligible people and enrolling them in insurance, as the first step to better health, will require a major effort by multiple groups across King County.

Leadership Circle Co-chairs



Maud Daudon

Maud was appointed Seattle Chamber of Commerce president and CEO in 2012. She stepped into this role after 10 years with Seattle-Northwest Securities Corporation where she served for six years as president & CEO. From 1998 to 2001, Daudon was deputy mayor and chief of staff for the City of Seattle, focusing on overall city strategy, public safety, labor issues, budget, information technology, and city utilities. Prior to that, she was chief financial officer for the Port of Seattle. Daudon is co-chair of WSDOT and the city of Seattle's Advisory Committee on Tolling and Traffic, chairs the board of trustees for the Bullitt Foundation, and serves on the board of trustees for Seattle Biomedical Research Institute. She was named to Governor Inslee's transition team and served on Governor Gregoire's Higher Education Funding Task Force. In 2010, she was recognized as one of the Puget Sound Business Journal's "Women of Influence."



Tom Gibbon

Tom develops and manages Community Health Programs for Swedish Medical Center's External Affairs Department where he is a member of the Swedish/Providence Government and Regulatory Affairs Team. In 2010, he opened the Swedish Community Specialty Clinic, a partnership formed between 300 Swedish Specialists, the King County Community Health Network, Project Access Northwest and a variety of community organizations aimed at ensuring that vulnerable individuals can access the quality specialty care services. Gibbon manages the Ballard Teen Clinic at Ballard High School, and currently serves on a Public Health Advisory Committee tasked with promoting collaborative health care initiatives between King County hospitals. He is Chairman of the Board of the Washington Healthcare Access Alliance, and has served on the Board of Directors for the Lifelong AIDS Alliance. Gibbon is committed to developing community-wide programs that focus on serving Washington State's underserved and uninsured populations.



Gordon McHenry, Jr.

Gordon is the President & CEO since 2012 of Solid Ground, a King County based community action agency committed to ending poverty and advocating for public policies and solutions that address racism and other forms of oppression that are the root causes of poverty. Solid Ground addresses housing, transportation, healthy food access, community engagement and leadership. A native Seattleite and graduate of Seattle Public Schools, McHenry served as Executive Director of Rainier Scholars, as well as on a variety of boards including CAMP (now Centerstone), United Way of King County, the Seattle Public Library, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust Board of Directors and the Seattle University Board of Trustees. He is an attorney who served as corporate counsel in the Boeing Company as well as with the Perkins Coie law firm in Seattle. McHenry holds a BA from Seattle University and a JD from the Georgetown University Law School.